19. सड़क सुरक्षा कक्ष द्वारा सभी विभिन्न सड़क प्रयोक्ताओं और बच्चों में सड़क सुरक्षा की भावना पैदा करने के लिए पेंटिंग प्रतियोगिताएं और अन्य सड़क सुरक्षा कार्यकलाप आयोजित किए जा रहे हैं।

Motels and Hotels on National Highways

2222. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a congestion on the National Highway at the way side motels in between Vijayawada and Guntur; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to avoid mushroom growth of such way side hotels/motels.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No motels exist along N.H. 5 from Vijayawada (Km 434.15) upto end of Guntur Bypass (Km 396.80) which runs outside Guntur Town. However, there are a few eating establishments in this section located outside the National Highway right-of-way. No specific instances of congestion on the National Highway have been reported due to these establishments.

(b) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Ports

2223. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has urged Government to immediately undertake an extensive modernisation programme for development of Ports for creating adequate capacity to cope with the requirements of shippers;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to inadequate modernisation and development of port facilities, the ports have remained ill equipped to serve the needs of shippers and exporters; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to modernise and develop various ports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No proposal has been received in this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Modernisation is a continuous process.

The capacity of the ports which has 20 Million tonnes in 1951 has increased to 168 million tonnes in 1991-92. The requirements of Indian Shippers and Exporters have not met.

In the 8th Plan, the Government proposes to further improve the functioning of the Ports by concentrating on:

1. Development of infrastructure in ports in consonance with the overall economic growth;
2. Increasing level of containerisation in the country;
3. Deepening of ports for handling the bigger sized ships in ore handling ports;
4. Mechanisation of loading/unloading facilities; and
5. Improving productivity in labour and equipments.

Calcutta-Madras National Highway Number-5

2224. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total outlay approved by Government during the Eighth Five Year Plan period for development of four lanes on the Cuttack-Bhubaneshwar section of the Calcutta-Madras National Highway Number-5;

(b) the amount already sacntioned and spent so far on that project; and

(c) by when the work for providing four lanes on that Highway is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Since the VIII

Plan is yet to be finalised, it is not possible to indicate the outlay earmarked for development of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar Section of N.H. No. 5 during VIII Plan period. However, four-laning of this stretch has been projected to the World Bank for assistance under the proposed Second National Highway Loan. Negotiations for the loan have been completed, but the World Bank is yet to sign the loan. As such, it is too early to say when the work of four-laning will commence and be completed.

Lifting of Ban on Foreign Shipping Lines

2225. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a ban on foreign shipping lines operating coastal cargo trade in the country has been lifted; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) With a view to attract transhipment container traffic in the Indian Ports, a decision has been taken to temporarily relax the coasting trade restriction in favour of those foreign lines who bring main line container vessels to Ports in India and take export containers from India to their destinations without transhipment.

Appointment of Conductors

2226. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is surplus staff with D.T.C. in Driver and Conductor cadres;

(b) if so, the number of such surplus staff in each cadre, separately, and what arrangement has been made by the DTC to absorb surplus staff;

(c) if not, the extent of shortage in each cadre and what arrangement has been made to make up the shortage;

(d) whether Conductors are proposed to be deployed by the DTC on the proposed 3000 buses which are being permitted to ply in Delhi;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and what arrangement Government have made to absorb 1775 candidates who are awaiting their appointment since 1986 in Conductor cadre in DTC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) As per current norms, DTC have a surplus staff of 2336 employees in the category of conductors. These norms are under review.

(c) As on 1-2-1992, 254 drivers were short. This shortage cannot be made up as all further recruitments have been banned in Delhi Transport Corporation.

(d) and (e) It has been decided to provide as many surplus staff as are required by the Delhi Administration to assist them in the implementation of the scheme of grant of stage carriage permits to 3000 buses in Delhi.

(f) The empanelled candidates who are awaiting their appointment in conductors' cadre cannot be absorbed in DTC till the vacancies arise in the cadre and the ban on recruitment lifted.

Express Highways

2227. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified 10,000 Kms. of highways to be earmarked for 'express highways'; and

(b) if so, what are the stretches of highways identified in Andhra Pradesh for this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In 1988, the Government had made broad identification of a probable Expressway network for the country of about 10,000 Kms. length, subject to feasibility studies etc. being conducted in due course. The routes in this plan passing through